



Mission Statement:

Established in the Spirit of Jesus Christ with an Afro-centric focus, Blessed Sacrament Chapel is committed to spreading the "Word" through fellowship and good works.

Sunday Mass: 10:00AM Reconciliation: 1st Sunday 9:30AM

St. Stephen Cathedral Parish Office: 270-683-6525 Rector: Fr. Jerry Riney, jerry.riney@pastoral.org Parochial Vicar: Fr. Jamie Dennis, james.dennis@pastoral.org Parish Life Coordinator: Sr. Jeannette Fennewald, SSND jeannette.fennewald@pastoral.org

TODAY'S READINGS

Gospel at the Procession with Palms — Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Matthew 21:1-11).

First Reading — In spite of my sufferings I am not disgraced. I am not put to shame (Isaiah 50:4-7).

Psalm — My God, my God, why have you abandoned me? (Psalm 22)

Second Reading — Christ emptied himself, and God filled this emptiness with exaltation (Philippians 2:6-11).

Gospel — The account of Christ's passion according to Matthew (Matthew 26:14 — 27:66 [27:11-54]).

The English translation of the Psalm Responses from Lectionary for Mass & 1969, 1981, 1997, International Commission on English in the Liturgy Corporation. All rights reserved.



Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord April 9, 2017 God greatly exalted [Christ] and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.



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Blessed Sacrament Chapel

April

- Weeks of April 2 and 9—Items for Crossroads Women's Shelter.
- **April 16** Mass followed by Easter ٠ egg hunt

The Church asks us to avail ourselves of the Sacrament of Reconciliation at least once a year during this time of the year.

Penance Services

- April 9 St. Stephen 2 PM
- Every Wednesday 6:30 –8 PM and every Saturday after 9 AM Mass at St. Stephen's

Thank you for your contributions.

April 2—

Goal: \$818

Candles—\$3



Good Friday, April 14



Community Events

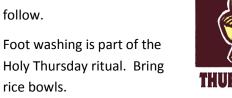
April 11 6:30 PM Chrism Mass at the Sports Center.

St. Meinrad's has several retreat offering:

◆ April 12-16 Holy Week Retreat

Holy Week at Blessed Sacrament

April 13 6 PM Holy Thursday Mass at BSC with Adoration to follow.



THURSDAY © J. S. Paluch Co., Inc.

HOLY

April 14 7 PM Good Friday.

rice bowls.

Liturgy of the Word with the reading of the Passion. Adoration of the Cross, Communion. The one day of the year when there is no Mass. Day of fast and abstinence

April 15 8 PM Holy Saturday Blessing of Fire, Easter Vigil Liturgy. Reception into the Church of Ruth Coble—Profession of faith, 1st Communion, Confirmation.

April 16 10 AM Easter Sunday. Mass followed by Easter Egg hunt.

Stations of the Cross

St. Stephen's Cathedral has Stations on Wednesday after noon Mass and on Fridays at 6 PM

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

Monday: Is 42:1-7; Ps 27:1-3, 13-14; Jn 12:1-11 Is 49:1-6; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; Jn 13:21-Tuesday:

33, 36-38

Wednesday: Is 50:4-9a; Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31, 33-34: Mt 26:14-25

Thursday: Chrism Mass: Is 61:1-3ab, 6a, 8b-9;

Ps 89:21-22, 25, 27; Rv 1:5-8; Lk 4:16-21

Lord's Supper: Ex 12:1-8, 11-14; Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18; 1 Cor 11:23-26; Jn 13:1-15

Is 52:13 - 53:12; Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, Fridav: 15-16, 17, 25; Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9; Jn 18:1 - 19:42

Saturday: a) Gn 1:1 — 2:2 [1:1, 26-31a]; Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35; or Ps 33:4-7, 12-13, 20-22; b) Gn 22:1-18 [1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18]; Ps 16: 5, 8-11; c) Ex 14:15 - 15:1; Ex 15:1-6, 17-18; d) Is 54:5-14; Ps 30:2, 4-6, 11-13; e) Is 55:1-11; Is 12:2-6; f) Bar 3:9-15, 32 — 4:4; Ps 19:8-11;g) Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28; Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3-4 or ls 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6 or Ps 51:12-15, 18-19; h) Rom 6:3-11; i) Mt 28:1-10

Acts 10:34a, 37-43; Ps 118:1-2, 16-Sunday: 17, 22-23; Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8; Jn 20:1-9or Mt 28:1-10

SAINTS AND SPECIAL OBSERVANCES

Sunday: Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord;

Monday of Holy Week

Tuesday: Tuesday of Holy Week

Monday:

Wednesday: Wednesday of Holy Week

Holy Thursday; The Sacred Pas-Thursday: chal Triduum

Friday: Friday of the Passion of the Lord (Good Friday); Fast and Abstinence

Holy Saturday; The Easter Vigil. Saturday:

SEEING CHRIST CLEARLY

We start today looking through the portals of Jerusalem, seeing crowds of people, cheering and waving palm branches in the air. The whole atmosphere is one of joy, triumph, and celebration. We can get distracted or enthralled by the scene, and not see clearly the features of Jesus as he enters. But our readings from Isaiah and Paul's letter to the Philippians clarify his features for us. He is the Suffering Servant, meek and mute before his captors and persecutors; he is the very image of the unseen God, yet will not clutch at equality with God before he endures his final confrontation in humility. Isaiah and Paul help us "behold the Lamb of God" before we hear the story of his final and greatest confrontation. It is important that we see Christ clearly before we hear the account of his passion, for we-his Body through baptism, the church—now bear his face. We must, with him, enter into this time of trial so we can, also with him, enter into his final triumph.

Keep in Prayers

- Ruth Coble who will be received into full communion of the Church at the Easter Vigil on April 15th.
- Austin Gough as he continues his ٠ journey toward Confirmation on June 4th.

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MINSTERS

| | Lectors |
|------------------------------|-------------------|
| <u>April 9</u> : | Diane Hatchett |
| | Gloria Adams |
| Passion—Narrator—L. Brooks | |
| | Voice: Greg Gough |
| <u>April 13</u> | Darlina Etienne |
| | Marsha Allen |
| <u>April 16:</u> | M.K. Gough |
| | Marsha Allen |
| Eucharistic Ministers | |
| <u>April 9:</u> | M.K. Gough |
| | Tina Gough |
| | Karen Leachman |
| <u>April 13:</u> | Vivian Higgs |
| | Payton Sanford |
| | Misty Sanford |
| | <u>Ushers:</u> |
| <u>April 9</u> : | Robert Hagan |
| | Yvonne Mundy |
| <u>April 16</u> : | Robert Johnson |
| | Von Williams |
| | Offertory |
| <u>April 9</u> : | Robert Hagan, |
| | Yvonne Mundy |
| <u>April 16:</u> | Robert Johnson |
| | Von Williams |

Catholic Relief Services Rice Bowls

This year, CRS Rice Bowl provides a path for Catholics in the United States to build, what Pope Francis calls "a culture of encounter". By following the <u>daily Lenten cal-</u> <u>endar</u>, sharing the weekly<u>stories of hope</u>, and making the <u>meatless meals</u>, participants will follow a personal journey that leads to us seeing ourselves in the faces of our neighbors, cultivating a spirit of global solidarity and encountering God's love anew.

Pope Francis told Catholic leaders that the "ability to see yourselves in the faces of others, this daily proximity to their share of troubles and their little acts of heroism: this is what enables you to practice the commandment of love, not on the basis of ideas or concepts, but rather on the basis of genuine interpersonal encounter." "We do not love concepts or ideas," the Pope said. "We love people."

"CRS Rice Bowl is about people and the hope we have for each other. It's about our ability to encounter our neighbors no matter where they live, to love them as God loves us.

It is global in its reach, bringing tangible goods and services to people in need around the world. Twenty-five percent of all contributions stay in local dioceses to support hunger and poverty prevention programs such as community gardens, food pantries, soup kitchens, support groups, and job centers. The remaining 75% goes to support CRS' humanitarian and development programs overseas, providing life-saving assistance and hope to impoverished and vulnerable communities.

IMP—Kroger Update

Blessed Sacrament's # is 30623

Do you shop at Kroger? Are you signed up? Your contribution which costs you nothing is greatly appreciated. 2nd Quarter Earnings: \$152.77 (12-1 to 2-28)

TREASURES FROM OUR TRADITION

Now we have come to the center of the Christian year, beginning with today, Passion Sunday, Holy Week, and culminating in the Pasch, the Sacred Triduum. Some have called the culminating event in this week's journey of faith "The Three Days of Easter." The origins of many of our observances, including today's blessing of palms and solemn entry into the church, hearken back to old Jerusalem.

In the late fourth century, a woman living a consecrated life in southern France made a four-year pilgrimage to Jerusalem. There, she encountered the rich liturgies of the city, bursting with Christians. She was a keen observer, and fortunately for us wrote vivid letters of her experience to a circle of women friends she calls her sisters. By the time of her journey, it is clear that even some catechumens were undertaking the dangerous journey so that they could be formed at the very site of the events of Christ's passion and rising. At the heart of the pilgrim experience were processions, such as today's joyous procession to the Mount of Olives, and brilliant catechesis from the bishop every day, as well as intense fasting and prayer. When you resolve to keep this week holy in your own life, and especially when you commit to participate in the full Triduum with worship in church and fasting at home, a very ancient tradition is within your grasp.

-Rev. James Field, Copyright © J. S. Paluch Co.

Our thoughts and prayers are with: <u>SICK:</u> Loretta Wathen, Rita Moorman, Beverly Chilton, Larry Leachman, Otha Holbrook, Georgia Holland, Carol Hatchett, Philip Moorman, Sr., Jim Moorman, Bernice Williams, Sarah Bumm, Dorothy Fulton, Louise Johnson, Larry Allen, Betty Clark, Phillip Moorman, Jr., Linda McDonald If you know of anyone seriously ill who is in need of prayer or visitation, please notify the office.

THE HOMEBOUND: Stan Howard at Bishop Soennecker Home, Knottsville, Donald Moorman room 40 at Wellington Park, 2885 New Hartford Rd, Maggie Howard at Twin River Nursing Center, A phone call or a card can cheer the homebound if you can't visit.

Father, if you are willing, take this cup away from me; still, not my will but yours be done.

May we find the spiritual strength we need to bear our cross and support our brothers and sisters in their times of suffering.

THE CROSS

We should glory in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, n whom is our salvation, life and resurrection; through whom we are saved and delivered.

-Entrance Antiphon, Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper, Roman Missal

From the desk of Father Jamie

Palm Sunday:

There are two days that people especially love coming to Mass, and that is Ash Wednesday and Palm Sunday. I think part of why people like these two days, is because they get something to take home, ashes and palms. Palm Sunday is the beginning of Holy Week, the most important week of our liturgical year.

Today we hear the Passion being read and we follow Jesus from the death sentence, to the cross and then to the tomb. These are the defining moments of our faith. To many these moments were looked at as failure, but to the Christian, these are moments of victory. Death is conquered.

Last Palm Sunday was my first time proclaiming this Gospel as an ordained person, standing in the place of Christ, when I was a deacon. At my home parish, we would divide the reading parts. I will never forget that moment when I heard the congregation read the part of the crowds condemning Jesus, when they said, "Crucify him!" That was so profound for me, since I realized how those words were being directed at Christ who I was standing in for, which meant those words were being directed at me. It was quite the humbling experience. I look forward to Good Friday this year, since it will be the first time I lay prostrate on the floor as a priest at the beginning of the Good Friday service.

May we meditate on our Lord's Passion, his love for us and his self sacrificing nature, which brings us salvation. May we be thankful for salvation and may we joy-fully hope in the coming resurrection. He is our light and our salvation.

Sunday, April 9th Palm Sunday

"Take and eat; this is my body"

Today's Gospel shows Jesus at the "Last Supper" with His disciples. In this moment, Jesus institutes the sacrament of the Eucharist, by blessing and transforming the Bread and Wine into His own Body and Blood for the salvation of the World. From then on priests have acted accordingly in doing likewise by offering up the sacrifice of the Mass for the salvation of humanity everywhere.

April Birthdays:

3—Rita Moorman, Ethan Gough,

Robert Hardin

6-Marshall Williams

15—Benjamin (Frank) Adams

20—Shalanda Williams

21—Maggie Howard

23—Misty Sanford

25—Charlene Meadows

26—Vivian Higgs



Let us not be closed to the newness that God wants to bring into our lives! Are we often weary, disheartened and sad? Let us not close our hearts, let us not lose confidence, let us never give up: there are no situations which God cannot change; there is no sin which he cannot forgive if only we open ourselves to him. *—Pope Francis, Easter Vigil '13*

Mass Intentions:

April 2—Les Bumm April 9—Sandra Brown April 13—Michael Carrico April 15—Jerry Mezur April 16—Frances Johnson April 23—Kenneth Higgs April 30—Les Bumm

Let us remember to pray for those who have recently died or those who are in the process of dying. Always remember to pray for the poor souls in purgatory.

Coming Soon

E-giving. You will be able to use credit card or automatic withdrawals.

Each year during Lent we reach out to help others. (One of the pillars of Lent is Almsgiving). We have chosen three: local needs, backpack ministry, and Crossroads Women Shelter....

The weeks of April 2 and 9, we will collect for Crossroads Women Shelter. (umbrellas, bus passes, blankets {good thickness at Wal-Mart for \$10}, sheets, pillow cases, gift cards to McDonald's or Wal-Mart), coloring books. These ladies have to travel to take showers and to do laundry so they often have to take the bus just for daily necessities.

Thank you for your generous response for the Backpack Ministry. "When I was hungry you fed me." The donations went to the Backpack ministry for Hagar Preschool. Each week they prepare a takehome sack for twenty-seven 4 year olds.